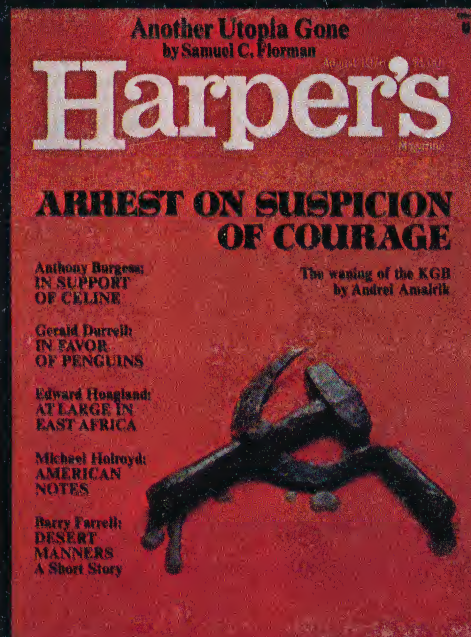
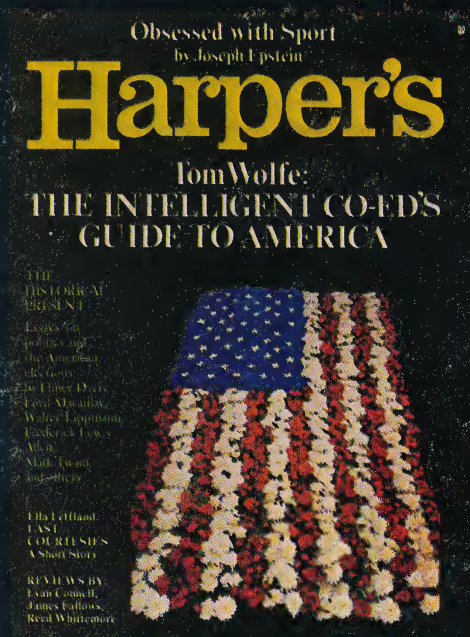
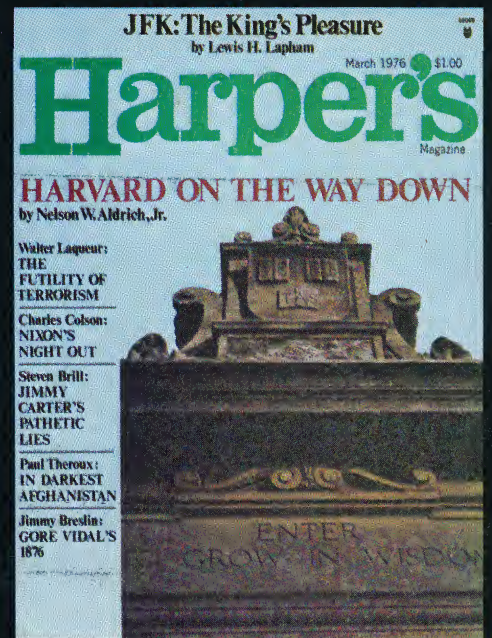
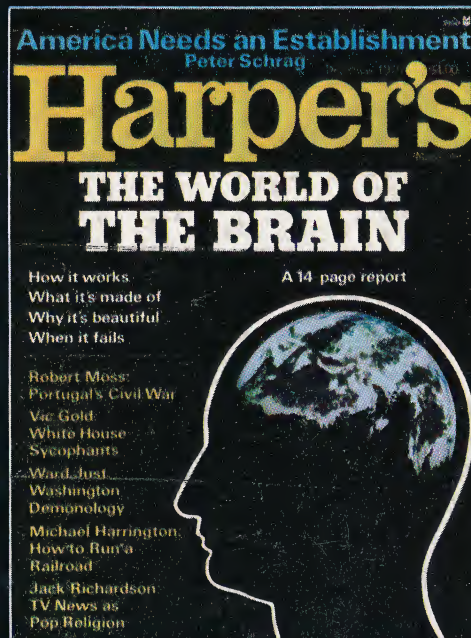


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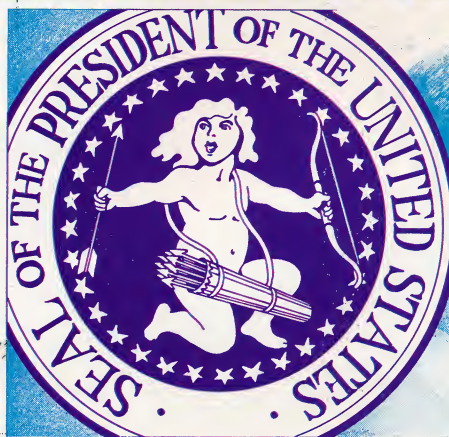
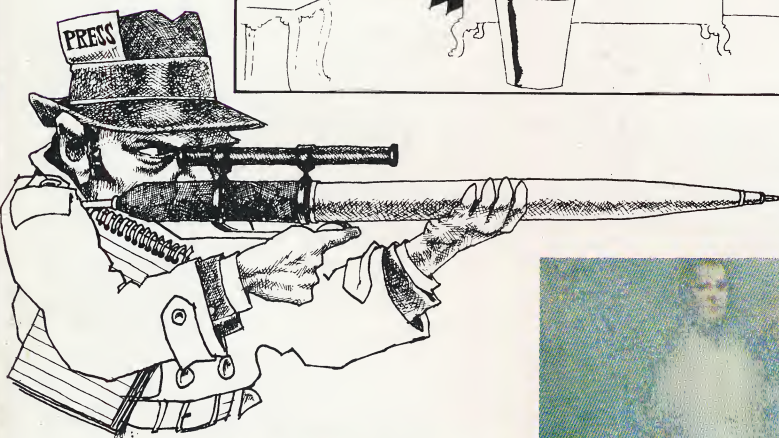
Apr 77

Consistent



brains. Michael Novak's, for instance. His assessment of marriage and the family is intelligent and telling: "Marriage, like every other serious use of one's freedom, is an enormous risk. No tame project, marriage. The raising of children . . . brings each of us breathtaking vistas of our inadequacy. Fear of freedom—more exactly, fear of taking the consequences—adds enormously to the tide of evasion. The armies of the night find eager recruits."

wit. Rhoda Koenig vs. the feminists is a good example: "Though the issue of sexual harassment in the office probably won't make its way onto the picket lines or the evening news, it does provide a graphic illustration of what's wrong with much of feminism."



diversity.

... With jesuitical ingenuity, they go about convincing white, middle-class, college-educated women that society has done them wrong, like the snake-oil salesmen whose suggestible listeners began to feel all the symptoms of sciatica, dropsy, and the botts."

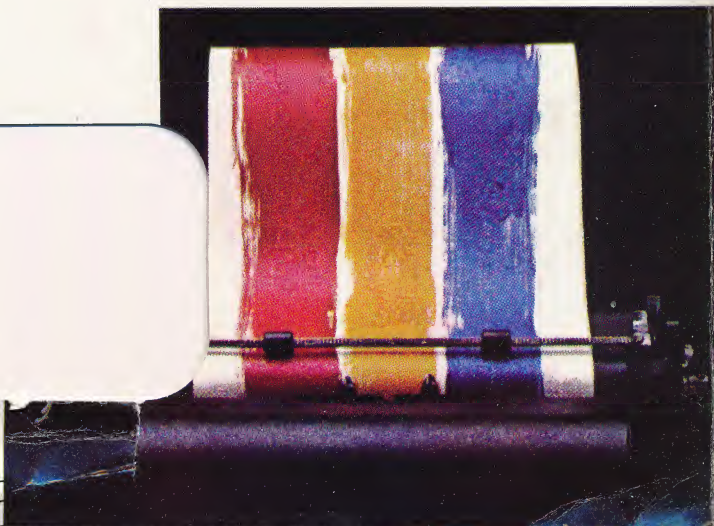
talent. Tom Wolfe on the literary nature of modern art: "... a whole generation of artists devoted their careers to getting the Word (and to internalizing it) and to the extraordinary task of divesting themselves of whatever there was in their imagination and technical ability that did not fit the Word."

time. The *time* for reflection is a journalist's gift, for otherwise he writes history on the run. Here's Lewis H. Lapham speaking as the Editor of *Harper's*: "The publication of bad writing implies a contempt for language and thus, by extension, a contempt for the structures of thought that depend on language. ... When *Harper's* authors speak in their own voices, they often will contradict one another, but this seems to me consistent with the idea that democratic government survives by reason of articulate disagreement."

faith. Edward Hoagland, like *Harper's*, is basically optimistic: "So we wanted a rest, and we aren't going to get a rest, and what we need now is a politician who can say just exactly that with a laugh. ... He should be, not many things to different people, but *many things within himself*. Pragmatism and generosity ... are contradictory qualities, and yet they're the hope of the world."

skepticism. Try Lapham again, on the climate of Wall Street: "I remember listening to a man arguing about an eighth of a point ... about \$15,000 ... The trader on the other end of the phone begged the man to remember ... how they thought of one another as brothers. 'Harry,' the man said, 'for an eighth I can *buy* a brother.'"

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Lewis H. Lapham, Harper's editor, has some rather strong, clearly defined ideas about the stance, the direction, the thrust of Harper's in the years to come. In a privately circulated memo, he writes: "If I were to choose a phrase for the stance of Harper's, I would describe it as a last stronghold of the humanist debate."

Above all, Lapham's a realist. He (and I) expect that you are too. You read newspapers and watch the tube ... subscribe to trade journals and wander happily in libraries ... glance through The Atlantic, The New Republic, Playboy or Esquire. You're well read and -- if anything -- surfeited with information. Lapham has an answer:

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Virginia, there is such a thing as reality, and
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JAA:AA

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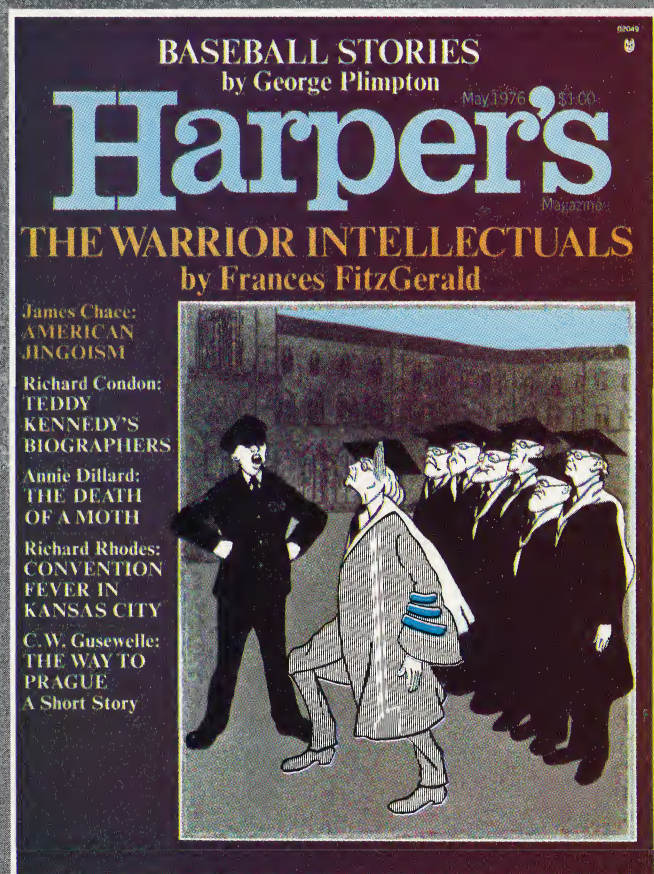
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